

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06 IO-10 /126 W  
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R 132114Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7248

UNCLAS CARACAS 0443

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EIND ENRG VE US OPEC

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PEREZ DEFENDS OPEC POLICIES

1. PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED OPEC PRICING POLICIES, AT A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM SECTOR IN CARACAS JANUARY 12. PEREZ NOTED THAT OPEC IS PRESENTLY THE OBJECT OF A FRONTAL ATTACK BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, WHICH HAVE MADE THE DESTRUCTION OF OPEC "ONE OF THEIR PRINCIPAL GOALS." HE PREDICTED THAT ANY MOVE TO COUNTER OPEC WILL SUFFER THE SAME FATE AS THE HOLY ALLIANCE. PEREZ STATED THAT IN OUR TIME THERE WILL NOT BE ANY FORCE, "NEITHER MILITARY NOR ECONOMIC", THAT WILL HAVE THE POWER OR THE "DIVINE RIGHT" TO EXPLOIT THE UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS, WHO MAKE UP THE GREATER PORTION OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE. PEREZ EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE POSITION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE RESPECTED IN THE END AND THAT "WE SHALL ARRIVE AT AN INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE, POSSIBLY WITHIN THE U.N., WHICH WILL CREATE THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER."

2. IN THE MEETING WITH 360 EXECUTIVES, PROFESSIONALS AND TECH-  
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NICIANS FROM THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, PEREZ REACTED TO THEIR

FEAR OF POLITICIZATION OF THE INDUSTRY FOLLOWING NATIONALIZATION BY DEFENDING POLICIAL ACTIVITY AS FUNDAMENTAL TO A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY. HE POINTED OUT THAT SUSPICIONS WITH RESPECT TO PARTIES AND POLITICIANS ARE DANGEROUS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL FUNCTIONING OF A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. PEREZ PROMISED THE GATHERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL TO INSURE THAT PARTISAN INFLUENCES DO NOT AFFECT THE OPERATION OF THE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY. HE INDICATED THAT OBJECTIVE STANDARDS FOR THE SELECTION OF PERSONNEL WILL BE MAINTAINED. REAFFIRMING THAT THE INDUSTRY'S NATIONALIZATION WILL TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR, PEREZ SAID ANY FAILURE IN THE PROCESS WILL NOT BE A FAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, NOR OF A PARTY, NOR OF A CERTAIN SECTOR, BUT A VENEZUELAN FAILURE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.  
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## Message Attributes

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